

Message Text

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TAGS: EGEN, EAID
SUBJECT: BBC T.V. INTERVIEW WITH JAMAICAN PRIME MINIS-
TER: NORTH-SOUTH ISSUES

1. EMBASSY HAS OBTAINED TRANSCRIPT OF FEBRUARY 14 TELE-
VISION INTERVIEW OF MICHAEL MANLEY BY BBC-2 REPORTER
RICHARD KERSHAW. HIS COMMENTS ON NORTH-SOUTH ISSUES
FOLLOW.

2. ASKED ABOUT THE LACK OF PROGRESS IN THE NORTH-SOUTH
DIALOGUE, MANLEY REPLIED THAT "IT HAS PRODUCED SOME VERY
GOOD STUDIES WHICH ARE VERY GOOD WORKING DOCUMENTS. AND
NICE DECLARATIONS. BUT ALSO MORE THAN THAT. THERE HAS
BEEN A STUDY ON THE COMMON FUND ... WHICH GIVES
PRACTICAL POINTERS ABOUT THINGS THAT COULD BE DONE.
... I THINK THAT THE DEVELOPED WORLD WHICH IS VERY CON-
CERNED WITH GROWTH, WHICH WORRIES ABOUT INFLATION, AND
WHICH IS SUFFERING FROM UNEMPLOYMENT, IS BEGINNING TO
UNDERSTAND THAT ITS OWN CAPACITY TO GROW AGAIN, AND
THEREFORE BE ABLE TO DEAL WITH UNEMPLOYMENT WITHOUT PAY-
ING A TERRIBLE PRICE IN INFLATION, IS GOING TO BE DETER-
MINED BY WHETHER THE THIRD WORLD CAN ESCAPE FROM ITS
TOTAL PARALYSIS AT THE MOMENT. AND THERE IS AN INTER-
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DEPENDENCE HERE. THE DEVELOPED WORLD ISN'T GOING TO GET
THE MARGIN FOR SUBSTANTIAL GROWTH IF IT DOES NOT INCLUDE
THE THIRD WORLD IN A RESUMPTION OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITY. I
THINK THIS IS BEGINNING TO DAWN ON PEOPLE."

3. ASKED WHETHER THE DEVELOPED WORLD DOESN'T VIEW THE
LDC'S AS COMPETITORS -- ESPECIALLY THE KOREAS, INDONES-

IAS AND BRAZILS -- MANLEY REPLIED: "YES, THIS IS TRUE. THIS IS ONE LIMITED VIEW THAT YOU FIND. BUT YOU ALSO FIND OTHER PEOPLE WHO ARE THINKING, I THINK, IN A SLIGHTLY MORE PROFOUND WAY THAN THIS, WHO ARE RECOGNIZING THAT PERHAPS THE WAY FOR THE WORLD TO MOVE IS TO ACHIEVE NEW TYPES OF INTERNATIONAL DIVISION OF LABOUR IN WHICH THE SOLID INTERMEDIATE INDUSTRIES ARE INCREASINGLY OVERTAKEN BY DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, AND WHICH DEVELOPED COUNTRIES INCREASINGLY GO TO THE HIGHER RANGES OF WORLD TECHNOLOGY. AND I FIND THERE'S A GROWING RECOGNITION OF THIS ALSO. YOU SEE, THE PROBLEM IS HOW TO GET THE PEOPLE WHO TAKE THE POLITICAL DECISIONS TOGETHER TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEM. WHAT IS HAPPENING IS THAT THE BIG CONFERENCES BRING TOGETHER DIPLOMATS, TECHNICIANS AND THIS KIND OF THING AND THEY SUFFER FROM WHAT I WOULD LIKE TO DESCRIBE AS THE NEGOTIATING INSECURITY; OF NOT BEING DECISION-TAKERS. THEY THEREFORE TEND TO BE AFRAID TO MAKE CONCESSIONS AND THE WHOLE THING BECOMES RATHER, RATHER CONFRONTATIONS, A LITTLE RHETORICAL, PEOPLE POSTURE INSTEAD OF GRAPPLING WITH PRACTICAL THINGS. AND WHAT I AM REALLY TRYING TO DO IS TO SEE IF I CAN FIND A WAY TO GET THE DECISION-MAKERS TO ZERO IN ON THE PROBLEM IN A PRACTICAL WAY."

BREWSTER

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